



Private Sylvie Fortier, an Aero Engine Technician at Canadian Forces Base Comox, BC, working inside a T33 aircraft during an aircraft inspection.



Corporal Lynne Fraser, a Vehicle Technician at Canadian Forces Station Falconbridge, adjusts the engine of a 4 ton truck.



Captain Louise Chevalier, a Flight Test Engineer posted to the Aeronautical Engineering Test Establishment at Canadian Forces Base Cold Lake, Alberta.

compete equally for promotion, and earned rank has equal status. All professional development training is open to women including leadership training and attendance at Staff Schools, Staff Colleges, and at the National Defence College.

Until 1971, women had to seek permission to remain in the service after marriage, and pregnancy meant a summary release from the service.



Corporal Sue Tousant, a Weapons Technician (Air) at Canadian Forces Base Baden, West Germany, closes pylon panels on a CF-104 Starfighter aircraft.

Provision is now made for maternity leave following which the member must be prepared to give unrestricted service on her return to duty. Available statistics indicate that in 1979 approximately 29% of servicewomen were married, the majority to fellow members of the Armed Forces.

These changes, however, have not been easy, nor are they likely to be fully accepted for some years to come. As Captain Suzanne Simpson observes in an incisive article in the Autumn 1980 issue of the Canadian Defence Quarterly (published at 100 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, Ontario):

*'The primary determinants of the success of the trials will probably not be whether the women physically can do their jobs, or whether they are emotionally up to the stress of the environments in which they serve. Rather, the success of the trials will most likely depend on how the men and women co-operate to get the work done, and whether the men can shed concerns about women lowering the prestige of their previously all-male jobs. Women can be properly selected to endure the stress of the jobs, both emotionally and physically, but this will not help if the women and the men they work with do not perceive women in the Canadian Forces as full partners in service.'*

Captain Simpson's conclusions are optimistic, however:

*'In the trial units, because the men and women have to work in close proximity for extended periods of time, the men and women will in all likelihood come to respect each other as individuals.'*